

Amendments to the Specification

The paragraph starting at page 1, line 19 and ending at page 2, line 13 has been amended as follows.

In order to print with such a printhead at a high speed, it is desirable to simultaneously drive as many heaters ~~as many~~ as possible and simultaneously discharge ink from ~~nozzles~~ as many nozzles as possible. However, the capacity of an electric power supply (power supply) of a printer is limited, and a current value which can be supplied at once is limited owing to a voltage drop caused by the resistance of a wiring line running from the power supply to the heater. From this, the printhead generally adopts time-division driving of driving a plurality of heaters by time division and discharging ink. In the time-division driving, the printhead comprises a plurality of heaters, the heaters (nozzles) are divided into a plurality of groups, each formed from a plurality of heaters arranged adjacent to each other. The heaters of the groups are driven by time division so that no more than two heaters are simultaneously driven in each group. The sum of currents flowing through heaters is suppressed, and no large electric power need be supplied at once. The operation of the driving circuit which drives heaters in this way will be explained with reference to Fig. 6.

The paragraph starting at page 31, line 15 and ending at page 32, line 2 has been amended as follows.

As described above, ~~the object of the present invention is also achieved when~~ can utilize a storage medium which stores software program codes for realizing the functions of the above-described embodiments ~~is supplied to~~ in a system or apparatus, and the computer (or the CPU or MPU) of the system or apparatus reads out and executes the program codes stored in the storage medium. In this case, the program codes read out from the storage medium realize the functions of the above-described embodiments, and the storage medium which stores the program codes constitutes the present invention. The storage medium for supplying the program codes includes a floppy® disk, hard disk, optical disk, magnetooptical disk, CD-ROM, CD-R, magnetic tape, nonvolatile memory card, and ROM.